

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary in the battleground swing states days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. When the head of Sinclair Broadcasting airs a biased one-sided hit piece on Kerry within 2 weeks of the election, then this is an obvious partisan attempt to influence the election in favor of Bush and that's wrong.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.